

MEMORANDUM

Date: January 13, 2003
To: California Public Library Directors
California County Law Library Directors
cc: Deans and Chairs of California Library Education Programs
From: Dr. Kevin Starr, State Librarian of California
RE: 2003/2004 Public Library Staff Education Program

I am pleased to announce the *2003/2004 Public Library Staff Education Program*. The program, which was developed by a team of public library directors and staff in response to the results of a survey conducted in 1998, seeks to address the need for more public librarians available to serve the state's children and young adults, underserved, geographically isolated and other diverse communities. Attached are the program guidelines and application for the 2003/2004 federal fiscal year. The deadline for submission of applications to the State Library is 4:00 p.m. on April 11, 2003.

Please note the following additions and changes to this year's packet and program.

- Because of the shift of the LSTA grant period from the federal fiscal year to the State of California fiscal year, the 2003/04 program will not provide tuition reimbursement for the 2002 Summer semester. That semester is currently being funded by the 2002/03 program.
- Evidence of the student's acceptance into an ALA accredited Master's Program is no longer required at the time of application

After reviewing the attached information, please distribute copies of this information to your staff. A copy of these application materials will also be e-mailed to you as a WORD document. Also, please be advised that although we have not yet received federal Library Services and Technology Act funds for 2003/2004, the necessary efforts are underway.

Thank you for your assistance in helping grow a new generation of librarians. Informational brochures about the program are being mailed out to you under separate cover to help you promote the program among your staff. If you have any questions regarding this program or these materials, please contact Kathy Low by e-mail at klow@library.ca.gov or at (916) 653-6822.